QUID NOVI

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QUID NOVI

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Éditorial de Chanel Sterie (LAW II)

My Run In with the Police

« Je viens de me faire **assault** » C'est ce que j'ai dis à la téléphoniste du 991 après qu'un homme a tenté, il y a quelques semaines, de prendre mon sac, à quelques mètres de chez moi, un samedi soir autour de 20h.

Heureusement, je n'ai subi aucune blessure ou traumatisme de l' « attaque ». Je demeure toutefois incrédule face à la suite d'événements qui s'est produit. Bien sûr, personne ne pense que ça va leur arriver, mais surtout pas dans une rue éclairée, à quelques pas de chez soi, si tôt dans la soirée.

Cet article pourrait porter sur différents aspects de mon expérience, par exemple, la présence intimidante de trois policiers armés dans ma cuisine, alors que j'étais seule chez moi, ou bien du

suite à la p.18

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Contributions should also include the student year of the contributor.

Notions of Citizenship Column Brought to you by the Black Law Students Association A Second Look at McGill's Intrepid Global Citizens

by Annamaria Enenajor (LAW II)

"There is a point at which methods devour themselves." Franz Fanon



Among McGill's socially conscious cosmopolitan elite, undertaking an international internship in a developing country is a standard and applauded rite of passage. The ubiquitous photo of an intern smiling with a pot-bellied black baby in her arms has become a merit badge for anyone truly serious about making a "difference" and becoming a "global citizen." I find many aspects of this culture within the Faculty truly disturbing.

In the context of interns working in Africa, the "global citizenship" narrative is, unfortunately, a colour-blind approach to explaining development and legal work that normalizes power structures based in colonial history and grants permission to lack sensitivity, ignore politics, and tell the devastatingly incomplete story of Africa as a place of hopeless darkness and death. In what follows, I outline the dangers of this approach and argue that it is time we be-

come critical of these altruistic endeavours and develop a culture that moves beyond admiring photos of black babies and crafts bought in a local market to question the true value added to communities bombarded by well-meaning Western interns. To illustrate, I begin with a symbol representative of my critique—the classic African baby photo.

We've all seen it posted on Facebook: a McGill intern surrounded by black children or carrying a black child. While I never understood the necessity of this photo, it is ubiquitous and often used in literature to entice well-meaning students to embark on adventures of their own. While you might find unnecessary my sensitivity to what is usually a harmless gesture, it is based on the fact that the conduct of interns need not be egregious or destructive to cause harm. When placed in communities with colonial histories of exploitation, more insidious harm results from insensitivity and ignorance.

To comprehend the absurdity of interns who take pictures of African babies, we need only ask ourselves if it would be appropriate for a McGill intern at a European placement to conduct themselves in the same way. Would we find it acceptable for an intern to run around Geneva taking pictures of Swiss babies and "local women" at the market? Or would we find it an intrusion of privacy? What makes it acceptable in one context and not the other? Is it because the children are poor? Is it because their families seem to be unable to say "no" to wealthy foreigners? Is it because they are African and exotic? Whatever the reason for the lack of decency preventing one from restraining one's trigger finger in the presence of African children, it directly translates into a lack of respect for people's private lives. The reality today is that most instances of racism, especially at liberal Canadian

academic institutions, happen without racial animus. Most of these pictures are taken by well-meaning pluralists who "fell in love with Africa" and are ignorant of their own paternalism.

The anonymity of the subjects of these photos is but another example of the objectification of Africans often present in the media—a legacy of colonialism. Interns who head to Africa to "save Africans from their own brutalilty" are not only reinforcing a vision of Africans as passive subjects who wait for Western saviours and whose permission is unnecessary before capturing their image; their attitudes are also self-defeating in that they merely recreate the power imbalance of colonialism. Far from creating partnerships (that many interns claim to be their goal), their attitudes create categories of victims and saviors steeped in historical assumptions of racial superiority. While their form may have changed from Colonial Mission to Human Rights Internship, their substance remains the same. To illustrate how charitable zeal masks a deep belief in the incompetence of Africans, I need only recall Rudyard Kipling's infamous poem "White Man's Burden." In it, Kipling urges the white man to take care of Africans by "filling full the mouth of famine and bidding the sick cease." After all, he continues, the conquered people are "half-devil and half-child."

I'm tired of interns coming back from Africa with the same one-dimensional story which the *McGill Reporter* uncritically publishes. In a recent lecture available on www.ted.com, Nigerian novelist Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie warns of the dangers of having a single story of Africa. A uniform vision of Africa such as the one portrayed in the September 10 *McGill Reporter's* Special Feature, "Two tales for the heart of darkness," presents no possibility of feelings more complex than pity and no

room for the raging introspection that precedes all real change. Like Adichie, were I not born to an African father and had I not spent my childhood in Nigeria, I too would have seen Africa "as a place of beautiful landscapes, exotic animals and incomprehensible people fighting senseless wars waiting to be saved by a kind white foreigner." To insist on these negative, simplistic portrayals of Africa is to rob people of their dignity. It works against their human rights.

Regardless of the good intentions of those involved, uncritically accepting the completion of a human rights internship as proof of having benefited those in need works against any notion of human rights work as an emancipatory project. Instead, it mirrors the heavily-critiqued trend of professionalizing human rights work which merely reinforces the axes of global inclusion and exclusion, of privilege and disenfranchisement. Last year, Dr. Ratna Kapur came to speak at the Faculty's John P. Humphrey Lecture in Human

Rights. She is among many scholars and practitioners adding their voices to critique contemporary human rights work, and yet her critical perspective seems to have disappeared as quickly as she did. Contemporary human rights professionals (interns included) don't want to hear that their work has shifted from action to mere discourse, that their institutions reproduce power inequalities, that they represent the priorities and dictates of Empire; that they reinforce the status quo, and that human rights internships are, in fact, of more value to practitioners that to beneficiaries. Instead, we insist that as "global citizens," we are "making a difference," and as proof, we offer photos taken with black babies.

So while the University, our peers and our employers congratulate students for having completed a few weeks of an internship in Africa, we are blind to the fact that yet again we have turned Africa into a caricature for the promotion of our own ends. My point is this: Race matters, history matters, wealth matters. When we plug ourselves into Africa's complex, highly charged and often politically sensitive communities without conscious sensitivity to its historically-based social reality, we risk undoing any short-term good we accomplish as legal interns. Instead, we become yet another cog in the wheel of foreign exploitation that has marred Africa's history for far too long. This is not to say that there is no place for the ambitious bleeding hearts of McGill. I simply wish to encourage a more critical evaluation of how we as students can bring about change instead of uncritically praising the presence of every McGill intern in Africa and admiring their ridiculous photographs.

BLSA invites law students to contribute to its column exploring its theme this year: "Notions of Citizenship." The views expressed are solely those of the author.

Unsolicited (and in All Likelihood Unappreciated) Advice for the Newly Appointed Interim Dean Jutras

By Stefan Szpajda (LAW III)

Professor-cum-Dean Jutras!

It is with warmest regards that I write to congratulate you on your recent appointment to deanship of our steadily expanding faculty. May its unending glory be proclaimed all the way to the rat infested halls of Université de Carthage! While the machinations that elevated you to your current post elude the mean-browed plebeians, we stand firmly behind the professorial decree of damnatio memoriae that has removed your predecessor's name from all inscriptions and records. We your welltimed coup brings great relief. Indeed, the inimitable Leckey the Younger has assured us of your sagacity, citing the rapid departure of Helgus Dedekus and his unruly band of Visigoths as proof of your virility. With your glorious ascension, years of unrest shall be, uhh, put to rest. The faculty once again knows peace.

But beware the false comfort of a smooth rise to power. The populace, as you well know, is famously fickle. No Dean's legacy can escape the scrutiny of time. To ensure the support of the masses, maintain the loyalty of key patricians, and secure your place in the annals of this institution, we beg you lend wisdom to these time-honored principles.

Pursue Eastwardly Expansion with Steady Caution

Under the reign of your predecessor, the Eastern edge of our faculty was conquered by nomads and settled by foreign foes. You must reverse this process immediately. Chart your course wisely; aggression begets aggression, but we can ill afford the hassle of another prolonged renovation in New Chancellor Day Hall. The first nearly decimated morale, and left even your most loyal supporters in the McGill Law

Journal grumbling about their loss of space: "Does the administration think they can placate us with translucent walls and hideous green paint? We spend our days correcting footnotes. At least give us something." The thankless automaton proceeded to make punctuation-themed jokes, further evidencing a potentially irreversible slide toward madness. Vengeance is surely nigh.

The territories must be regained, but it's best you refrain from scuffing your shoes by doing any of the conquering yourself. An expendable proxy will do just fine. Recall, however, that successful proconsuls are often ungrateful. Monitor the careers of your agents closely, and always keep a detailed log of anyone who appears to strive beyond the parameters of their authority. Marcus Barattalius, famous for relentless badgering of adversaries, risks eclipsing you in popularity following a well-timed festooning campaign that has left New

Chancellor Day Hall adorned with oldtimey photographs. Do not hesitate to exercise preemptive force against this or any other usurper at the first sign of insubordination.

Everyone Loves Bread and... Circuses!

Know your ecosystem. As Dean, you command both the professorial and student classes; their interests seldom converge. Bread and circuses will keep students too entertained to be covetous of their professors' fattened calves.

Remember that you are the capo di tutti capi, first among a professorial class that consists of a delicately balanced, self-perpetuating elite. This collection your inner circle - is committed to the myth of meritocracy; as they climb social and economic ranks in an environment fundamentally hostile egalitarianism, each privilege is repackaged as a birthright. Unlike their counterparts in the private sector - ho ho ho! - collaboration and research are the names they give to career advancement. Respect their method, but do not mistake the utility of its calculus with the authenticity of its claims. They are as susceptible to the elegance of hierarchy as any other dominant class.

How could they be otherwise? Each stage of the professorial cursus honorum requires a delicate blend of privilege, conformity, and theatricality. By the time they acquire a tenure-track position, the puzzling contradictions of their office are mysteriously reconciled, and along with them the impulse toward subversion. They claim to be of as they place themselves above the interests they so often claim to represent. Play by the rules, and you will never face meaningful dissent from their ranks. Better yet: implicate yourself in their grace-laden ascent, and a generation striving to publish so as not to parish shall be forever in your debt. Never forget you hold the wand that can squelch their crippling self-doubt, and formalize their innate suspicions of superiority. Here's how.

i) The Tenure System

Do not underestimate the significance of the tenure system to the sustained dominance of your class. A handpicked elite entrenches a class of scholars as guardians of the jargon and norms that have elevated a consistently reliable body of theory-hawkers and policy wonks to office. Women, minorities, and – by far the most underrepresented group – those ill-bred plebs that occupy the working class, have been kept out of the inner circle by the tenure system for centuries.

You need not worry about fomenting revolt among those excluded from the inner circle, as the brilliance of the system is its amenability to tokenism. Should any member of an underrepresented class learn the shibboleth, they can be permitted to join your ranks. Their induction into the class – provided it is strictly on your terms – both preserves hegemony and relieves tension; personal gratitude and a sense of "I did it, why can't you?" neutralizes dissent. Appoint the right individual, and you keep the hoard they represent at bay.

As Dean, you may be hesitant to elevate too great a number to a position from which they cannot, barring deanicide or a fondness for beef jerky, be removed. Certainly, mishandled tenure appointments can create headaches down the road. Imagine being stuck with an outlier whose personality and views do not coalesce with the collectivity's! Though your anxiety is natural and prudent, bear in mind that such appointments will cement their recipients' loyalty to you. In a profession entirely dependent on reputation and networking, this is invaluable. To keep potential dissenters on their toes, you can always make an example out of those professors who deviate even slightly from your expectations. Although their eventual job security obscures this fact, professors in the early stages of their careers are entirely expendable. Any cost associated with removing one from his rank will be offset by the timely appearance of a fungible sycophant equally eager to deconstruct, reimagine, and problematize.

ii) Class Struggle

The sustained dominance of professors depends on their harmonious relationship with students. Given the disproportionate power that professors wield, you would be wise to minimize tension between these factions. Capitalize on opportunities to cultivate hail-fellowwell-met moments between faculty and students. Such high-volume, low-margin interactions are assured at coffee house, a peculiar and by some measures controversial weekly to-do. It is the natural choice for men-about-town to flaunt their budding intellects, and even the most reviled member of the professorial class can redeem himself through a well-timed appearance at this pedestrian circus. Your predecessor, you will recall, faced a humiliating defeat after he sidelined the plebian counmandate and attempted to eradicate this long standing tradition. Do not make the same mistake.

For best results, insist that all faculty appearing at coffee house set aside their inherent distaste for malt beverages and sipping liquids from (potentially BPA leaking!) plastics. Our studies indicate that any professor spotted hoisting a red mug around the Atrium between the hours of 4:30 and 7:30 on a Thursday enjoys a 30% boost in popularity during course evaluations. That translates to a 15% decrease in examination re-grades ("Prof. Lametti is so cool, I see him at coffee house every week. I guess this C+ is his way of telling me I disappoint him. Next time, I'll try harder."). The best way to keep the classes separate is to make the lower sorts feel equal.

Construction Projects Create Jobs, Bitchin' Relics

For all its wretchedness, mankind has the good grace to expire and replenish itself within an acceptable time frame. No matter how prickly the dissenter, he and all his friends will be dead long before the name Daniel Jutras is forgotten. Though generally handy, mortality has one major drawback: stubborn naysayers occasionally insist on transmitting falsehoods to their progeny. How can a Dean of your repute rest

knowing that the preservation of his unimpeachable name depends on the pneumatic compliance of these unreliable temporal vassals? In all likelihood, accounts of your golden reign shall be blemished by mischaracterization, innuendo, and salacious historians nursing an unhealthy obsession with your (perfectly legitimate, if I may!) collection of "minnows." Fortunately, there is one sure-fire tactic at your disposal.

Build something huge. Though the flesh may perish, nothing lasts like a giant dome-shaped temple dedicated to one of the more nubile deities. Venus is the obvious choice, but don't be so quick to dismiss her lesser-known (and equally curvy) cousin, Stacey. As with any memorable edifice, suggestive decor is a must. Though it may seem gaudy now, carefully sculpted genitalia will appeal to the deeply held convictions of future scholars that whatever society

they happen to be living in is not sufficiently liberated from its sexual hangups. You are thus sure to be a winner down the road if you lend your support to representations of hirsute gentlemen thoroughly enjoying each other's capacity for rapacious intercourse. Moreover, plebs grateful for work in its construction will be indebted to your benevolence. Seldom does the short game complement the long game so nicely.

Get the ingredients right, and while generations of scholars squabble over the minutiae of your administrative capacity, bam!, this monument to awesomeness will crush their puny words with four hundred million tonnes of marble panegyric to Dean Jutras. Recall Tacitus, who wrote: "sarcophagi be mad hyphie." Respect? Respect.

Adopt these policies, and you are sure to make anyone's list of the Five Good Deans. Legacies, of course, are built with broad strokes. Leave the small things to the small people, and the little things to the little people. But don't ever get them confused, because little people hate doing small people things (though, oddly, not vice versa).

As always, felicior MacDonald, melior Jutras!

Stefan Szpajda, Vox Populi Consulting

* * *

Stalk your friends and more with Google Street View

by Chase Barlet (LAW I)

Sound the trumpets and bring on the parades (and, of course, the lawyers), for Google Street View has arrived in Montreal. If only this service had surfaced a few months ago when I was apartment-hunting, perhaps I could have satisfied my obsessive desire to know every detail of my future neighbourhood and successfully avoided the ones whose 360-degree snapshot warranted their dismissal.

It was well over a year ago that Google left the civilized streets of patient Palo Alto, perhaps not knowing they were about to weather the wrath of Montreal drivers. What excitement visitors feel when they discover that a drive down Rene Levesque Boulevard might well be taken as a challenge to both Nascar's held records and the sound barrier. Even before the legal concerns about privacy first surfaced, I wonder if Google realized they might be biting off more than they could chew. For one thing, I can't even imagine how they managed to safely photograph every

nook and cranny of our beloved island's pothole-ridden roadways. One way or another, they managed, even bouncing over the legal issues. This morning while checking the bus schedule on Google Maps, I noticed the grey-dusty stick figure had been shaken off and was now glistening in gold at me. I'm pretty sure that, at least for now, he's smiling.

Still, I am not without a few reservations. I admit that most of them are purely ideological, and given the service's launch, Google has evidently alconvinced ready the necessary Canadians of the project's legality. First off, and perhaps most importantly, I am concerned that Google is taking over the world. Today, Google's logo is a barcode when you type in a search keyword. One day, when that barcode appears on our foreheads when we wait in line for Google-grub that we pay for in Googles, we won't be able to say they didn't give us fair warning. Second, apocalypse aside, I genuinely appreci-

ate that there are many paranoid people (who ironically probably subscribe to the aforementioned doomsday theory) who insist the service is unacceptable. If you, your underage children, or some other sensitive piece of information from license plate to ATM pin number show up, I obviously believe that your complaint should be filed and handled immediately. The service has been widely available in the US for some time, and I myself wasn't entirely thrilled to see my car or pet in front of my Denver home. This, however, is mainly because the car was dirty. I am not a slob. I will also be sad when my dog - who appears in the front yard dies, because then I will be constantly reminded of how I miss Sir Gunther every time I survey my home. I am not a conspiracy theorist, and while I do have to triple-check my locks each morning before I leave, I personally believe the ideological complaints against the service are just that: theoretical. For all practical use, I advocate the advance of technology, the spread of information, and the global agglomeration of networking and convenience. So when it comes to Street View, I'll admit; I'm welcoming its arrival in Canada with open arms.

Why? Why not, is the real question. Let us take a moment to consider the uses of this service, shall we? If you are not sufficiently sold on at least one of these features, I invite you to write Google and ask them why they created the service in the first place. I myself am not entirely sure. I also don't really care. First, how can we Montrealers not be thrilled to see this triumphant step forward in the world of online stalking? It has never been easier than this, folks. Someday you may be asked if you remember where you were the moment you realized that your garden and the entrances to your home became primetime viewing material for a 65-year-old ice cream salesman in Rimouski. What a touching moment in history you are now witnessing. But the news is not all bad. You, too, have access to this service. There's a fine, fine line that I invite you all to explore between stalking and intensely staring at your significant other's or grocery store sales clerk's apartment from the comfort of your living room.

Next, let me break away from my sarcasm to point out that when you've fallen lost in the inescapable maze that is Verdun or have no idea how to get to your friend's delicious dessert party in Westmount, Street View allows you to visually simulate where you need to walk on the screen and then you can follow in real life. For the directionally challenged, citing landmarks like "that one ugly mailbox" or "the shrub that looks like Dick Cheney" as directions will prove especially meaningful to the less observantly-inclined who can now map out and see the street corner online to locate said plant or postal service's artistic shortcoming in order to find their way. I'll tell you, my opinion of Rosemont would be entirely different right now had this been an option during the Venutian heat-wave that welcomed me to the city in mid-August.

Notice from the photographs the time of year during which the city has been eternalized. This is important. The tool will be a nice way to remember what the city looks like when it is not covered in snow. In fact, it might even be a positive mood enhancer to remind us that, yes, there will come a time when there is no more slushy crap in this God-forsaken icebox. Bring it on, Mother Nature.

This service is incredibly sleek. You will be more globally aware, yet still comfortable; you can virtually visit cities thousands of miles away from the comfort of your living room lounged in an oversized bean bag. You will be more prudent in your travel decisions; why visit Amarillo, Texas when you can walk the entire block of the downtown core in 43 seconds? You will save money; why go to Disneyworld when you can zoom in close and de-romanticize yourself when you see how long the lines are? You will be more social; you can stalk your friends without their knowledge and know where they live should they invite you over. So on this momentous day, fellow McGillians, I urge you to embrace Street View. Privacy concerns aside, turn off the lawyer inside you and enjoy this amusing, youthful feature that has hitherto been just an unreasonable figment of cybernerds' dreams. Have fun!

Finally, my address can be made available in exchange for a frozen treat.

Community Corner

by Laura Easton (LAW III)

Name: Andrea Girardin

1. Start date: Fall 2009 expected graduation: December 2012

2. Zodiac: Leo

- 3. If you were stuck in a room with Charlie Feldman, Ivan Nault & myself singing a musical (full-voice), which musical would it be, and how would we be cast?:

 Moulin Rouge, and you would all be slutty CanCan dancers
- 4. You're making the best pizza ever —what's on it? goat cheese, pine nuts, tomatoes, parmesan, more goat cheese

- With which Friend (NBC) do you most identify? Monica
- 6. It's 1999 and you're in your bedroom avoiding the rest of the house... what are you listening to? Aqua (laughs)
- 7. What is baked ziti? A pasta dish
- 8. Now "we all know that the moon is not made of green cheese ...but if it were made of barbecue ribs, would you eat it then?" Abso-fucking-lutely
- **9. Following that, what's your favourite SNL sketch?** I think, in recent history, probably the one with Sarah Palin with her moose-wrap.

where she actually appeared in per-

- 10. Who would you vote...
 Best Hair? Alex Shee
 Nicest Eyes? Michael Shortt's glasses
 Most Helpful? John Lennard
 Nicest smile? Mike Finley
- 11. If you were stuck on a deserted island with a game of Cranium consisting of only one category, which would it be? I've never played Cranium
- 12. Apples are to trees as law students are to ...? hell
- 13. Boardwalk or Park Place? Park Place

- 14. What's your favourite study spot? 3rd Floor Library
- 15. If you could go on a date with only one prof, who would it be? Gélinas
- **16. What song best describes your law school experience?** Quit Playing Games with my Heart (BSB)
- 17. What is the funniest thing you've ever heard in a law class? Moyse showing youtube videos of the slapchop and shamwow, with extended commentary
- 16. If you could tell your classmates one thing about you, what would it be? I'm actually really shy, believe it or not.

Name: Michael Shortt

- **1. Start date:** Fall 2009 **expected graduation:** December 2012
- **2. Zodiac:** Sagittarius, but on the cusp
- 3. If you were stuck in a room with Charlie Feldman, Ivan Nault & myself singing a musical (full-voice), which musical would it be, and how would we be cast? A Musical Adaptation of Romeo and Juliet, Charlie would play both Titula characters. Laura would be the nanny of Juliet, and Ivan would be lighting.
- 4. You're making the best pizza ever —what's on it? apples and brie. (LE: no sauce?) butter and nutmeg.
- **5. With which Friend (NBC) do you most identify?** I never watch that show, but I however identify heavily with Dr. House.
- 6. It's 1999 and you're in your bedroom avoiding the rest of the house... what are you listening to? Local Kingston band called The Arrogant Worms
- 7. **What is baked ziti?** zucchini casserole

- 8. Now "we all know that the moon is not made of green cheese ...but if it were made of barbecue ribs, would you eat it then?" No, because nobody owns the moon, as I discovered at the International Law 101 lecture, therefore I would be violating international law treaties.
- **9. Following that, what's your favourite SNL sketch?** Did they do Jizz in my Pants on SNL, or does that not count?
- 10. Who would you vote...
 Best Hair? Carrie Finlay
 Nicest Eyes? Selina Pelegrin
 Most Helpful? Charlie Feldman
 Nicest smile? Francois LeMoine
- 11. If you were stuck on a deserted island with a game of Cranium consisting of only one category, which would it be? The charades one –Superstar or something. Okay what do you think this is (begins to mime something).
- 12. Apples are to trees as law students are to ...? law schools?
- 13. Boardwalk or Park Place? Boardwalk.
- 14. What's your favourite study spot? The big tables on the 3rd Floor
- 15. If you could go on a date with only one prof, who would it be? Only one? That's so not fair? If I were a girl it would totally be Dedek, but I seriously can't decide as a man.
- 16. What song best describes your law school experience? Warren Zevon, "Lawyers Guns and Money."
- **17.** What is the funniest thing you've ever heard in a law class? Honestly, it's the shit that I say when I'm trying to speak French. When I was asked to present the facts in Labelle v. Gatineau, I started with "Les enfants fréquentaient une poubelle." The entire francophone segment of the class burst out laughing.

18. If you could tell your classmates one thing about you, what would it be? I was on PBS, CNN and MTV before I finished high school. Only one of those is a lie.

Name: Hélène Vallée

- 1. Start date: Fall 2009 expected graduation: Dec. 2012
- 2. Zodiac: Taurus
- 3. If you were stuck in a room with Charlie Feldman, Ivan Nault & myself singing a musical (full-voice), which musical would it be, and how would we be cast? Annie, Charlie as Annie. The others I don't know. (LE: Dibs on not being Miss Hannigan)
- **4. You're making the best pizza ever —what's on it?** cheese, and some hot peppers. but ideally my pizza would be a huge chocolate chip cookie.
- 5. With which Friend (NBC) do you most identify? I wish Rachel, but probably more Phoebe.
- 6. It's 1999 and you're in your bedroom avoiding the rest of the house... what are you listening to? Drop the Needle.
- **7. What is baked ziti?** I don't know, but something I would like to try.
- 8. Now "we all know that the moon is not made of green cheese ...but if it were made of barbecue ribs, would you eat it then?" I believe in the integrity of the moon.
- **9. Following that, what's your favourite SNL sketch?** Ashlee Simpson lip-syncing when the song skipped.
- 10. Who would you vote...
 Best Hair?
 Nicest Eyes?
 Most Helpful?

Nicest smile?

everyone has their own thing in their own special way. I know, boring answer.

- 11. If you were stuck on a deserted island with a game of Cranium consisting of only one category, which would it be? Cranium? What's that? I need to know more.
- 12. Apples are to trees as law students are to ...? Coffee.
- **13. Boardwalk or Park Place?** I think I need to play social games more.
- **14. What's your favourite study spot?** Hopefully my brain.
- **15.** If you could go on a date with only one prof, who would it be? Did other people answer these? (LE: Yes). Dedek –for the way he bites his glasses.
- 16. What song best describes your law school experience? I will Survive, by Gloria Gaynor
- 17. What is the funniest thing you've ever heard in a law class? I'm hoping it's still on its way.
- 16. If you could tell your classmates one thing about you, what would it be? That I have a really hard time answering this question. Please come up and ask me.

Name: Ronnie Ollo

1. Start date: Fall 2009 **ex- pected** graduation: April 2012

2. Zodiac: Libra

3. If you were stuck in a room with Charlie Feldman, Ivan Nault & myself singing a musical (full-voice), which musical would it be, and how would we be cast? Avenue Q. 100%. Well (breaks out laughing) Charlie would be the character who lives with the friend, you can

be the Asian wife, because you listen a lot. Ivan would 110% be Gary Coleman –there is no question in my mind.

- **4. You're making the best pizza ever –what's on it?** Olives, tomatoes, pepperoni, and more olives.
- **5. With which Friend (NBC) do you most identify?** I like Rachel, in the sense that I'm always getting myself into the awkward situations she does.
- 6. It's 1999 and you're in your bedroom avoiding the rest of the house... what are you listening to? Matthew Good –I love that album. Beautiful Midnight.
- **7. What is baked ziti?** (looks like I just ran over his dog) Isn't that a pasta? I'm going to go with a lasagne dish, similar to lasagne.
- 8. Now "we all know that the moon is not made of green cheese ...but if it were made of barbecue ribs, would you eat it then?" Oh yeah. Except you wouldn't want to see it because I'd be covered head to toe in BBQ sauce –That's why I avoid Baton Rouge like the plague.
- 9. Following that, what's your favourite SNL sketch? Celebrity Jeopardy. 100% (LE: any particular?) Burt Reynolds Sean Connery and Calista Flockhart. Calista doesn't make a bet in final jeopardy because (starts laughing) the pen (laughing) was too heavy!
- 10. Who would you vote...

 Best Hair?

 Nicest Eyes?

 Most Helpful?

 Nicest smile?

 Rosalie Jukier. All four. I'll propose to

her through this interview if possible.

- 11. If you were stuck on a deserted island with a game of Cranium consisting of only one category, which would it be?
 Star Wars Trivia. I love Star Wars.
- 12. Apples are to trees as law students are to ...? Dirty Looks. I've gotten so many dirty looks since I

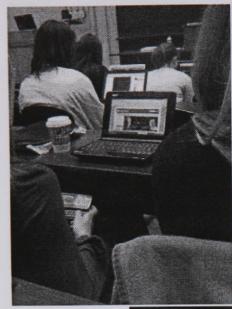
started here – and they're good at it too.

- **13. Boardwalk or Park Place?** Definitely Boardwalk. Although no one ever lands on Boardwalk.
- **14. What's your favourite study spot?** The Group Study Spot on the 3rd floor. (Interupted by onlooking Brett Pedvis: You mean Humphrey!? That's the John Humphrey Research Room. 2nd Floor.)
- **15.** If you could go on a date with only one prof, who would it be? I think we have asked and answered this question.
- **16. What song best describes your law school experience?** Jay Z, 99 Problems and a bitch ain't one.
- 17. What is the funniest thing you've ever heard in a law class? I heard one of my friends say they don't (sic.) think women should have the right to vote, they should stay at home and preserve the family as she is sitting next to me in law school.
- 18. If you could tell your classmates one thing about you, what would it be? I'm approachable and fun to talk to.



DROIT À L'IMAGE

Charlie Feldman (LAW II)



Last issue we had a picture of a 2L uhh... paying attention... in class. This week, a student texting in lecture. Well, texting... or sexting? The Quid never kisses and tells...

1457 EN ACTION

Les blessures à la faculté sont à la hausse - Le Quid soupçonne qu'il est peut-être temps de mettre fin aux mêlées upper-campus - lower-campus. GET WELL SOON, DESIREE ET PROF. MEGRET!



SPOTTED

Lord Denning. Back from the dead and looking juridically fly! Anyone fancy a game of cricket? Okay, let's estopp it with the jokes...



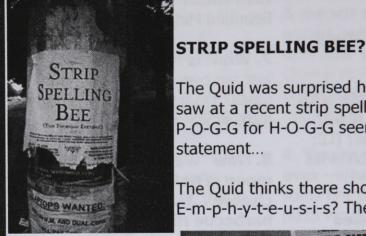
The Body of the Law

HEART AND SOUL?

Class presentations are so hot right now.

At left: a student presentation in Advanced Common Law Obligations.

Coming soon to The Quid: reviews of legal meth 2 class presentations! Oh boy!



The Quid was surprised how many law students it saw at a recent strip spelling bee. Taking off your P-O-G-G for H-O-G-G seems to be the new fashion statement...

The Quid thinks there should be a legal spelling bee: E-m-p-h-y-t-e-u-s-i-s? The Quid loves its spell check!



DON'T GET US SICK! (Above) Laeka approves of Catherine's sneezing technique. The Ouid encourages everyone to be as H1N1 conscious!



(à gauche) Parfois on nous présente avec la preuve incontournable qu'on doit rester à la faculté et ne pas se présenter pour la prochaine saison de Star Académie :- P Le Quid pense créer un événement où les Profs (et le doyen) participent au karaoké pour la charité... Malheureusement, le Quid ne peut pas penser à un nom pour cet événement autre que le terme américain 'cash for clunkers' ... Peut-on imaginer que Prof. Jukier est notre propre Céline Dion?



The Average

DROIT À L'IMAGE

DISONS (Overheard at the Faculty)

3L: Yeah – I'm classy – I make him pay for a cab. You've never heard of the taxi of shame!

3L: With my grades? Please, I'm holding out for the Nunavut OCIs...

3L: Each time that rash comes back I'm reminded why not to hook up with chicks in law...

3L: First year they scare you, second year they work you, third year they just bore you...

2L: My tuition pays for this class... that's some pure economic loss right there!

2L: J'ai eu ce cauchemar - j'étais en enfer où le diable me parlait des fautes que j'ai fait dans la vie pis je me demande pourquoi y suis-je ... qu'est-ce

que j'ai fait pour mériter cette fin terrible ... tout d'un coup je me suis rendu compte que je n'étais pas en enfer, j'étais juste dans mon cours...

2L: Urgh I hate the sound of her voice – she just sounds like this 18th century Tennessee barmaid...

2L: Seriously, I need to bring 3D glasses to this class to understand what she's drawing on the blackboard!

1L : Yeah, she just goes on rants in class – kind of like L'Heureux-Dubé...

1L: Just like Akon, I can't find words to describe how I feel about this class ... without being disrepectfull!!!!!!!!!

1L: Ugh, it sucks when you have to rip one in lecture ... well, cept in Foundations, there

Charlie Feldman (LAW II)

it's okay...welcome, in fact.

1L: McGill? Or McDrunk? I can't remember. I think I told her I went to law school at McDrunk. Close enough.

Prof. Jukier: If you're going to run someone over, kill them – don't maim them; it's much cheaper.

Prof. Morin: La livraison d'un cheval est indivisible... ben, sauf dans le cas où, je sais pas, tu le commandes parce que tu veux le trancher et le manger...

Prof. Mégret : À chacun son anarchisme!

Prof. [Redacted]: And that's why [people] such as Roncarelli not only should have lost – but also should have been deported!

Mes deux cents (your turn!)

3L: Keep it in your pants and keep it out of the Faculty; it's a city of over 2 million and your pool is just NCDH? Seriously?

3L: You sit in front of me in class – it's the same thing every lecture - you have no new email, nothing new on facebook, you check your jdate and match.com and nothing's new on any of them. There might be a reason... I'm just going to throw that out there... it might start with the fact that you come off as a huge creeper..

2L: If you hate this class so much – don't come to it and stop posting on facebook about how much it sucks and you want to kill yourself.

2L: Don't make law school the most expensive internet café of your life...

2L: Not going to lie, the Prof shot you down and my insides were filled with joy. Serves you right, tool.

1L: Why do I bother reading the cases if the Prof is going to recap them every class?

1L: C'est bilingue ici? Je parle anglais (pas parfaitement) – mais ton français n'existe pas! Pourquoi dois-je m'exprimer en anglais pour que les gens m'écoutent?

Overheard something? Want to say something? Submissions for these sections may be made by sending an e-mail to quid.charlie@gmail.com

All comments are anonymous unless you wish to have credit attributed. The Quid reserves the right to change, edit, modify, translate, or ignore what you send :-) Ceci dit, envoyez-les!

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

The Career Development Office

presents

The Graduate and Academic Career Day

This annual CDO event offers students the opportunity to approach representatives of various Graduate Programs across Canada to ask questions about post-graduate degrees.

Furthermore, there will be a panel discussion with academics, as well as current graduate students in the McGill Graduate Program in Law, to discuss issues relevant to students who are interested in academic careers.

WHEN: Wednesday, October 28th, 2009

12:30 - 2:30 PM - ATRIUM

KIOSKS Distribution of brochures and information about different universities and graduate programs.

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Room 200, NCDH

PANEL Participants will be answering student questions and presenting ideas on academic careers.

Participants to date:

- Université de Sherbrooke (http://www.usherbrooke.ca/droit/)
- Université d'Ottawa (http://www.grad.uottawa.ca/)
- University of Manitoba (http://www.umanitoba.ca/law/newsite/info.php?page=LLM)
- University of Saskatchewan (http://www.usask.ca/law/)
- University of British Columbia (http://www.grad.ubc.ca/apply/programs/programs.asp?display=LAW)
- McGill University (http://www.mcgill.ca/law-gradprograms/)
- École nationale d'administration publique (http://www.enap.uquebec.ca/enap/fr/accueil.aspx)



McGill Faculty of Law

Career Development Office 3644 Peel Street, Room 416 Montreal, Qc, H3A 1W9

Volunteers needed! Please contact: career-development.law@mcgill.ca

(Not) Rocket Surgery

by Michael Shortt (LAW I)

Montreal's culinary diversity is legendary, so today's column celebrates three lesser-known eateries which serve food you've probably never had before.

1) Baked Potato Shop (231 Avenue Des Pins Est): Run by the owners of the neighbouring laundromat, this restaurant doesn't serve your daddy's baked potato. BPS serves a baked potato which is stuffed with the mashed-up insides of ANOTHER baked potato and a frosting of parmesan cheese. This super-potato is then crowned with a selection of toppings, which can be customized or chosen from the menu (the Russian salad version includes olives, corn, peas and ground beef). One of these potatoes can easily be split between two people (making it a great date location for those who hate romance of any kind, or if you're on a budget, since a potato costs 8\$-9\$). If you're not in to massive amounts of starch, the lentil-soup-and-bun deal is a low-cal option that costs only \$3.50. Insider tip: order a Turkish coffee and you'll generally get a free piece of Baclava!

2) Esprithé (112 Avenue Laurier Ouest, closed Mondays): This teahouse serves over 200 varieties of high-quality tea from around the world. Although I'm not normally a tea fan, I was blown away by the tea that I had here, although you should make sure to write down the name of the tea if you order something exotic, otherwise you'll forget it like me. Tea tasting courses are also available for individuals and groups – details can be found on Esprithé's website (www.esprithe.com).

Even if you're not a tea connoisseur, there is a very good reason to visit this quirky little café: the macaroons. These are genuine, handcrafted Europeanstyle macaroons — not the coconut flavoured crap we get in North America. If you've never had a *real* macaroon, imagine a pair of light and fluffy cookies sandwiched around a thin layer of icing. Now imagine that all three components share the same richly-textured flavour,

which can be almost anything (strawberry, chocolate, strawberry-chocolate, lemon, or anything else strikes the confectioner's fancy). What makes Esprithé's macaroons unique is that these flavours are created using blends of teas sold in the store. I ordered a jasmine-vanilla-green tea macaroon and it was literally the best dessert I've ever had.

3) The Blue Nile (3706, rue St-Denis, dinner only): The Ethiopian food prepared at The Blue Nile is served in a very unique manner: stew-like dishes are piled around the outsides of gigantic flatbreads, and are scooped up by diners using rolls of extra flatbread provided by the restaurant. Eating with your hands is pretty fun in and of itself, despite it effectively being a tax on the clumsy (i.e. people like me). The stews themselves are saliva-inducing, ranging from meat dishes (chicken, lamb and beef) to a large and delicious vegetarian selection. All orders are served from the same platter-like flatbreads, which encourage sharing and socializing and bill-splitting. Speaking of which, don't be afraid to ask for more bread, as you're guaranteed to run out at some point.

One small caveat – the wait time for meals can vary enormously, from reasonably quick to a very, very long time. The price is on the higher side too (but not so high that you'll need your parents to pick up the cheque). If you're lucky though, you might be served by the waiter who is a Barack Obama lookalike.



Du Droit à la philosophie

de Marc James Tacheji (LAW I)

D'abord

Philosophe de formation et historien des sciences, Georges Canguilhem définissait la philosophie comme une réflexion pour qui toute matière étrangère est bonne et pour qui toute bonne matière doit être étrangère. L'épreuve du philosophe est de se rendre étranger à son monde, de rendre son univers étrange. Son objectif n'est pas de trouver des solutions, mais de poser des questions. La tâche philosophique n'est pas ontologique, mais bien « problématisante ».

L'influence de Canguilhem sur Foucault est aujourd'hui reconnue. Aussi n'est-il pas surprenant que pour cet illustre élève, la tâche de la philosophie se soit présentée comme l'art de rendre problématique tout ce qui est évident. Dans chacun de ses ouvrages, Foucault problématise nos acquis et nous fait percevoir ce qui, précisément, est visible, mais si proche, « si immédiat, si intimement lié à nous et qu'à cause de cela, nous ne le voyons pas¹ ».

La philosophie, ainsi définie, m'a toujours paru d'une utilité incontournable en matière de transformation structurelle. Le progrès ne peut se passer de la problématisation des évidences.

Ensuite.

Ubi societas, ibi ius. Dans « Existe-t-il un droit occidental ? », René David caractérise notre civilisation à partir du rôle particulier qu'on accorde au Droit. Les Occidentaux, dit-il, ont l'idéal d' « une société aussi complètement régie que possible par le Droit² ». Pour le meilleur ou pour le pire, j'avoue être en accord avec cette position - quoique pour ma part, je préfèrerais le terme plus simple d'« Occident » à la multiplicité hétéroclite des « Occidentaux ». Aussi, j'accorderais à la notion d' « Occident » son mouvement propre, indépendant de ses conditions constitutives. À mon sens, les concepts sont mus par

leurs propres forces³. L'intérêt se trouve précisément là où les concepts se font compétition, se ravalent, se juxtaposent, se superposent ou entrent en conflit déclaré. David poursuit d'ailleurs en affirmant que « nous écrivons le mot Droit avec une majuscule, comme nous écrivons avec une majuscule les mots États, Justice, Église ou Morale⁴ » : autant de concepts qui n'ont cessé (et ne cessent toujours pas) de s'affronter, tant sur la scène politique qu'au niveau des subjectivités.

À présent.

À mon avis, aujourd'hui, les discours médicaux et légaux structurent nos vies à un niveau fondamental. Le Droit nous affecte, nous module et nous dirige. Plus qu'il ne nous contraint, il nous défini, il nous produit. Nous sommes des sujets de droit. En ce sens, nous sommes déterminés comme individus raisonnables, autonomes, responsables, libres, etc. Aussi, comme on l'a noté, le Droit s'épelle aujourd'hui avec une majuscule. À mon avis, il est très important d'être méfiant des majuscules. Aussi est-il nécessaire de remettre en question les acquis qui les sous-tendent.

Vu mes penchants en matière de philosophie, ayant terminé mes études dans le domaine, la transition s'est faite vers la faculté de Droit de McGill sans hésitation. Mon objectif, en droit, est de comprendre la spécificité du discours légal ainsi que les modalités de sa transformation, de sa sophistication et de son expansion.

En parallèle.

Notons que je ne suis pas critique par rapport au Droit. Je suis critique par rapport à certains des concepts qu'il utilise et, ce faisant, qu'il cristallise, qu'il solidifie, qu'il rend « évident ». Je suis critique du fait que ces évidences, ancrées dans des années — voire des siècles ou des millénaires — d'histoire sont aujourd'hui presque indéraci-

nables. Mes critiques s'adressent au fait que, consciemment ou inconsciemment, le Droit définit le mode de subjectivité acceptable, faisant par le fait même violence à tout autre mode. De plus, le critère d' « acceptabilité » provient la majeure partie du temps de domaines extérieurs au Droit (la morale dominante, les sciences sociales, l'économie politique, etc.) En s'inspirant de critères externes et en insérant ceux-ci de façon jurisprudentielle dans notre histoire et de façon coercitive dans nos vies, le droit fortifie un discours qui, sans être arbitraire, n'était peut-être pas voué à la sacralisation.

Finalement.

J'ai l'intention, cette année, de produire un article toutes les deux semaines. Ces articles traiteront indirectement du Droit. Plus précisément, ils s'intéresseront à certains concepts sous-jacents, pris pour acquis et constitutifs du domaine légal. Au programme, nous trouverons (1) l'homme raisonnable et son apparition dans le droit, (2) la volonté individuelle et sa transition depuis la théologie paulinienne vers le droit, (3) la genèse commune des théories utilitaristes et libérales, (4) le normal et sa place dans la vie individuelle dans l'Antiquité, et (5) la procédure propre à l'émergence de la vérité dans la Cour. Cette liste, bien sûr, n'est ni exhaustive, ni nécessairement chronologique, ni même forcément permanente.

Je vous offre ici les appréciations d'un étudiant de première année en droit. En ce sens, je vous prie de me communiquer tout commentaire critique. Le rôle de la philosophie est bien de problématiser les évidences et, en ce sens, le dernier de mes souhaits est que mes mots soient eux-mêmes tenus pour acquis.

Merci bien,

Marc James.

¹ Michel Foucault. « La scène de la philosophie », dans *Dits et Écrits II, 1976-1988* (*DEII*). Quarto/Gallimard. Paris, 2001. n° 234, p. 594. Voir aussi « La philosophie analytique de la politique », dans *DEII*. Op. cit., n° 232, p. 540-541.

- ² René David. « Existe-t-il un droit occidental? », dans Twentieth Century Comparative and Conflicts Law: Legal Essays in Honor of Hessel E. Yntema. (éd) K.H. Nadelmann, A.T. von Mehren et J.N. Hazard. Leyden, 1961. p. 59.
- ³ Ceci demanderait évidemment des éclaircissements supplémentaires et je m'excuse de ne pouvoir les offrir ici. Très simplement, j'indique qu'un concept évolue, s'adapte et se transforme sans corrélation nécessaire avec le corps d'individus qui en constituent la source et le support.



Alana

by Chase Barlét (Law I)

With careful hands she drops the cup
To the old floor's worn, cold tiles
Just to hear it chip and shatter
Alana looks at me and smiles
My eyes melt the chill inside her
She knows my coffee, too, tastes bitter

Alana takes my hand and leads me Somewhere new she knows I've been Into the jagged cold she holds me tighter And I hope to ask her what I need to know On my lips a finger stops a trembling voice Her touch is deep here, warm above my skin

Alana glances down as I kiss her cheeks
Blushed rose from cold and love's lost sleep
Frozen leaves crack upon the dew-laced moor
As belfry tolls our soft sweet hour
And with nowhere else to go, she hurries me closer
Into the hidden silence of our own one shadow

Knowing, she stops to pull away alone and stare
Her eyes meet mine and she dares me not to move
In instinct – I reach out my hand to bade her closer
And back in the dining room I watch Alana
Leaning down and with a smile laugh
Clearing up the shards of the broken coffee cup

She takes my outstretched hand.

La reine des colons

by Andréa Girardin (LAW I)

Châtaine, cette luminosité
Espiègle
Qui laisse deviner une âme
Frétillante
The sparkle of the mind
In the eye of the
Storm
Whirling through the evergreen
Effleurant une promesse
épineuse
Languishing in
terra nullius.

⁴ Ibid. p. 59-60.

[&]quot;Don't You Have to Be Asian to Join APLAM?""Don't You Have to Be Asian to Join APLAM?"

"Don't You Have to Be Asian to Join APLAM?"

The short answer? No. APLAM - the Asia Pacific Law Association of McGill - is for people interested in law in Asia. This year, aside from a brand-spanking-new website (aplam.mcgill.ca) APLAM brings you an Asia Pacific Speaker Series, two exciting conference opportunities, pushes for more Asia-related offerings in our curriculum, and a community outreach portfolio. Come get involved!

10 Reasons Why 'APLAM Means Asian' is Bunk

- 10. Meet our VP Academic, Dan King.
- 9. Even the president is a self-proclaimed "banana". Come ask us what that means.
- 8. Two-fifths of the world's population resides in Asia. Now add what you know about Vancouver, San Francisco, Toronto... Asia is everywhere, embrace it!

...okay, but seriously...

- 7. It's 'Asia Pacific Law' not 'Asian Pacific Law' and 'Asia Pacific Law' Not 'Asia Pacific Law Students'.
- 6. If international business law is what you're into, China, India, and Vietnam are the markets to watch.
- 5. Even if you're not looking to work *in* Asia, outbound investments from Asia to North America are on the rise as Asia develops. Human rights more your cup of tea? Consider the impact of Asian immigration and refugee laws on North America.
- 4. Interested in energy? Infrastructure? IP rights? Climate change? Human Rights? Asia is pushing the envelope on many of these issues in ways that fundamentally challenge the assumptions we have as North Americans.

- 3. There are large communities of Asian descent in North America. Being sensitized to the practice of law in Asia will only help your practice here at home.
- 2. Because of the speed at which Asia is growing, its numbers, its histories, and its strength as an economic hub, learning about the practice of law in Asia is often synonymous with exploring international law.
- 1. Not all people of Asian decent are interested in Asia. The reverse is also true: you don't have to be Asian to take an interest in Asia!

APLAM Meet and Greet - thanks everyone for coming out! L-R: J. Nolan, P. Hojilla, L. Wang, C. Kou, S. Petry, C. Nguyen, S. Nguyen, P. Archambault, D. King, Y. Zhang, S. Yasmin.





FASKEN MARTINEAU



L'IMPORTANCE D'ÊTRE CONSTANT

Le groupe de pratique Droit asiatique de Fasker Martineau est heureux de vous inviter à une table ronde sur la façon d'établir des relations d'affaires saines entre l'Amérique du Nord et l'Asie. Raymond Chrètien, ancien ambassadeur du Canada en France, aux États-Unis, en Belgique, au Mexique et au Congo, agira

Venez écouter nos experts expliquer comment ils ont bâti des relations solides avec des entreprises partout en Asie.

- · L'importance de reconnaître les différences culturelles dans la conduite des affaires et l'établissement de relations avec des pays asiatiques.
- Transactions d'affaires entrantes et sortantes du Japon, de l'inde et de la Chine. L'importance de l'expertise

Quand:

De 17 h à 17 h 30 Inscription et réseautage

Table ronde et période de questions

De 18 h 30 à 20 h

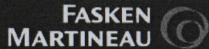
Cocktail dinatoire

R.S.V.P. taskenmartineau_qc@fasken.com ou at 514 397 5197. Les places sont limitées.

Fasker Martineau DuMoulin LLP

. 800 Place Victora, 37 etage. Montreal







THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

Fasken Martíneau's Asia Pacific Practice Group is pleased to invite you to its panel discussion on how to build healthy Business relationships between North America and Asia. Raymond Chrétien, former Ambassador of Canada to France, United States, Belgium, Mexico and the Congo, will be moderating the session.

Come and listen how our experts have achieved such strong relations with companies throughout Asia.

- The importance of recognizing cultural differences in doing business and establishing relationships in
- Business deals: In-bound and Out-bound transactions in Japan, India and China. The importance of expertise.

When:

5:00 pm - 5:30 pm Registration and networking

5:30 pm = 6:30 pm — Conference and question and answer period

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Cocktail reception

Where:

B.S.V.P. faskenmarlineau_go@fasken.com or at 514 397 5197. Spaces are limited.

fait que j'ai pu identifier l'agresseur le soir même. Je pourrais aussi discuter du fait qu'un des policiers m'a indiqué de mettre la race de l'agresseur après sa taille et son poids sur le rapport (pour éviter une accusation de « racial profiling »?) et, qu'à ma surprise, quelques personnes m'ont demandé si l'agresseur était noir.

Cependant, je préfère souligner quelques trucs d'autodéfense utiles que j'ai appris dans un cours d'autodéfense au secondaire. Parce qu'il est toujours mieux de prévenir que guérir!

- 1. Soyez toujours alertes et conscients de votre environnement. En étant alerte, on peut mieux se préparer à une attaque éventuelle.
- 2. Dégagez de la confiance. Les agresseurs recherchent des personnes vulnérables.
- 3. Faites confiance à vos instincts.
- 4. Faites du bruit. Crier est vraiment l'une des façons les plus simples de faire peur à l'agresseur et d'attirer de l'attention, ce que le criminel craint le plus.
- 5. Votre priorité est de vous échapper. N'attaquez l'agresseur que si c'est nécessaire.
- 6. Réagissez rapidement et sans hésitation. En anticipant des situations dangereuses à l'avance et en déterminant un plan d'action, il est beaucoup plus facile d'agir rapidement.

- 7. Des objets aussi banals que des clés peuvent servir d'armes contre l'agresseur.
- 8. Identifier les points faibles de l'agresseur. Un élément de surprise de votre attaque contre lui (ou elle) peut être assez pour le déstabiliser et vous donner le temps de vous échapper!
- 9. Si vous sentez que quelqu'un vous suit, appelez quelqu'un et ne raccrochez pas avant d'être en sécurité.
- 10. Surtout, essayez le plus possible de rester calme. Votre attitude et votre état d'esprit sont vos meilleurs outils!

Finalement, j'ai été chanceuse dans ma malchance. L'homme en question n'avait pas d'armes et j'ai réussi à le repousser et à sonner l'arme assez rapidement. De plus, l'agresseur n'a pas réussi à prendre mon sac. Mais même s'il aurait réussi, tout ce qu'il aurait trouvé, c'est un paquet de gomme – avec qu'un seul morceau. Voir que le crime ne paie pas.



